

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 599

By Casada

A RESOLUTION recognizing Luster Farm, a Tennessee Century Farm.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should honor and recognize those exceptional farming families who, through their dedication to the ancient and esteemed traditions of agriculture, have made significant contributions to their respective communities and to this State; and

WHEREAS, the Luster family of Williamson County certainly ranks among those estimable Tennessee farming families; Luster Farm, owned and operated by the family since 1906, has been designated a Tennessee Century Farm in recognition of its long and varied history; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Century Farms Program recognizes those families who have owned and farmed the same land for over a century, and also documents and interprets the State's history and culture of farming; and

WHEREAS, in 1906, Grant Luster, Sr., the son of a former slave, purchased a little more than eighty acres of land south of Franklin on Arno Road. Together with his first wife, Anna, and later his second wife, the former Sallie Jones, and his three children, Grant Luster, Sr., used the bounty of Luster Farm to provide for the family and the market; and

WHEREAS, Grant Luster, Jr., acquired ownership of the farm in 1931, and he and his wife, Nellie, together with their children, James, William, and Nelson, raised vegetables and livestock; and

WHEREAS, Grant Luster, Jr., married Mattie Jane Smithson in 1933, and, until their deaths in 1981 and 1991, respectively, the Lusters raised corn, wheat, tobacco, sorghum, hay, goats, poultry, swine, dairy cattle, vegetables, and fruit; and

WHEREAS, the farm is currently owned by Nelson Luster II, the great-grandson of the farm's founders. Mr. Luster, who took ownership in 1991, lives on the farm with his son, Anthony W. Luster, and together they manage a beef cattle operation on Luster Farm's sixty acres; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State, the strength of its communities, and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of people like the members of the Luster family, who have demonstrated a deep respect for tradition and hard work and a love for the land; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Nelson Luster II and the entire Luster family, whose Luster Farm has been designated a Tennessee Century Farm, commend them for their dedication to agriculture, and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.